

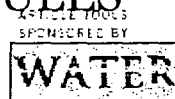
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Monday, June 5, 2006

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# PARKER DRILLING IN DEAL TO BUY HERCULES OFFSHORE

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The Parker Drilling Company signed definitive agreements yesterday to pay \$195 million to acquire the Hercules Offshore Corporation and the Hercules Rig Corporation, owned by Trenergy BHD, a publicly owned Malaysia company. Hercules owns seven jack-up rigs and three platform rigs in the Gulf of Mexico. Last November, Parker Drilling acquired two offshore niche companies: Mallard Drilling and Quail Tools. Last month, the Tulsa, Okla., concern announced an agreement to buy the assets of Bolivia's largest private drilling contractor, Bolifor S.A. Parker's stock rose \$1 yesterday, to \$9, on the Big Board.

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